



COLLABORATION IN THE MODERN URBAN ENVIRONMENT: REAL-WORLD LESSONS

Prepared for the IAEM PPP Caucus

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COLLABORATION IN THE MODERN URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Commonalities

Collaboration is “to work jointly on an activity, especially to produce or create something”

Large-scale incidents require cross-sector collaboration for effective response and recovery – public sector, private sector, and nonprofit sector

Today’s presentation will focus on several lessons learned and a brief case study from a major American city

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The Short Version


Ultimately, collaboration may be seen as a *force multiplier* – magnifying the impact of multiple organizations, units, or assets by combining resources and skillsets

We can begin by examining a handful of key factors which have proven successful during the start up of multiple previous efforts



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A Few Collaboration “Lessons Learned”

- **Set common objectives**
 - **Establish structure and operating parameters**
 - **Identify potential partners**
 - **Set meeting/planning frequency and format**
 - **Identify specific goals and projects**
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Successful Collaboration

Starting a cross-sector collaborative effort is a challenging endeavor. Yet success on a number of levels is required to keep it going. Successful collaborative bodies often share a number of identifiable traits.


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Collaboration Successful Traits

- Meeting on a regular basis
 - Tangible progress and outcomes
 - All members contribute
 - All members benefit
 - New tasks and projects
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Building Bridges – The Intangibles

- **Personalities matter nearly as much as qualifications**
 - **Training and exercises will increase interaction**
 - **Association of associations, network of networks**
 - **Interface with the local emergency operations center**
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Collaboration in a Major U.S. Jurisdiction

- **As in many large cities, cross-sector collaborative efforts are vital to Chicago's emergency management**
- **A number of specific projects provide valuable case studies applicable to other jurisdictions**

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Brief Case Study: Chicago

- With a population of just under 3 million, the city of Chicago is the third-largest in the nation, and the largest in FEMA Region V
- Local oversight is provided by the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC)



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Case Study: Chicago

- In 2010, the OEMC launched a collaborative effort called the Critical Infrastructure Resiliency Task Force (CIRTF)
- The original group consisted of public-sector agencies, private-sector critical infrastructure owners and operators, and active nonprofits

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Case Study: Chicago

- In 2012, Chicago hosted the NATO Summit, demanding immense planning for hazards including civil unrest and terrorism
- As a part of the after-action process, the CIRTF was rebranded and expanded to the Chicago Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF)

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Case Study: Chicago

CPPTF Membership Includes

Fire/EMS

Emergency Management

Cultural Properties

Colleges/Universities

Commercial Buildings

Retail Buildings

Police

Public Health

Financial Firms

Apartment Buildings

Hotels/Tourism

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Case Study: Chicago

- Tangible projects are crucial. Specific efforts at collaboration include:
 - Business Recovery Access Program (BRAP)
 - Central Business District Evacuation/Shelter Plans
 - Joint Cross-Sector Drills and Exercises



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Conclusions

- **Cross-sector collaboration is not a convenience for urban centers – it is a necessity**
 - **Collaboration begins with common objectives and an established structure**
 - **Traits of successful efforts include tangible progress and outcomes, and input and benefit for all members**
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Conclusions

- **Brief case study in Chicago provides real-world examples**
 - **The Chicago Public Private Task Force evolved from previous collaborative efforts and is active across multiple projects**
 - **Note that special-event planning in Chicago also relies upon extensive interaction across multiple departments/sectors**

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Questions and Discussion



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